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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC No. 02966-85

10 June 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: George Kolt
National Intelligence Officer for Europe

SUBJECT: Hoover Institution Conference on Soviet Active Measures
in Western Europe

1. The conference was part of a project to elucidate how the Soviets and their proxies work to undermine Western security in various regions. It was attended by scholars and government officials from the US and Western Europe.

2. The salient points:

- The conference was a valuable forum to exchange information on the vast amount of material already published by scholars and governments.
- The large Soviet effort in Western Europe relies primarily on conscious collaborators and useful idiots. Exposure is helpful but not a panacea. The greatest Soviet strength is not skill, but plentiful cadres and money--although nobody is quite sure of the exact funds involved.
- The Soviets cannot create situations out of whole cloth.
- Although nobody knows precisely how to counter Soviet efforts, all agreed it was essential that the Soviets not be allowed to define issues. The degree of Soviet success is greatly affected by how well thought-out and steadfast the Western position is.
- Of the regions discussed, the Soviets have been most successful in Greece where they control the largest-circulation newspaper (Ethnos). In West Germany

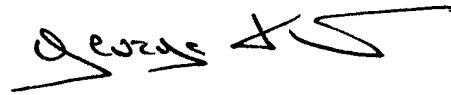
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they began acquiring greater influence in 1961 when the West meekly accepted the erection of the Berlin Wall. Regarding the current situation, some conferees stressed the utter Soviet failure on INF while others argued that INF had changed the terms the security debate in Germany. The Soviets have failed utterly in Italy, mainly because of government resolve, and in France, principally because the all important intelligensia is now anti-Soviet.

- The current Soviet emphasis is on SDI where US clumsiness and inconsistency has given them openings. But the situation is far from lost. USIA polls show populations generally favor SDI and some Europeans (notably the Institute for European Security) are beginning to organize pro-SDI drives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Kolt", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

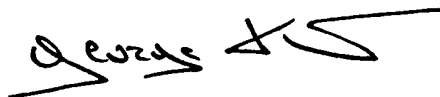
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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

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